

"AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL!"

ORGANIZE RIGHT



ORGANIZE YOUR MIGHT

Industrial Worker

VOL. 2 No. 40

One Dollar a Year

SPOKANE, WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1910

Six Months 50c

Whole Number 92

Agitate! Educate! Organize!! Fight For the Eight Hour Day!

THE DISGRACE OF SUNNY FRESNO

THE OUTRAGEOUS MOBBING OF THE INDUSTRIAL WORKERS AT FRESNO.

Not only Fresno, but likewise the whole state of California, has incurred reproach and disgrace by the mob violence in that city last Friday evening, directed against the Industrial Workers of the World.

The worst feature of the outrage was that the police made no effort to interfere, and evidently kept out of the way in order to allow the mob to do its work, in accordance with a general expectation of what actually happened.

Here is a statement of the main facts, as summarized by the Republican:

A mob of several hundred men and boys gathered at the corner of I and Mariposa streets in this city last night, attacked a number of Industrial Workers of the World, who had gathered there to speak, and then marched upon the I. W. W. camp, on Palm avenue, just outside the city limits, where they set fire to the big tent in which the men had been living. The tent and all the I. W. W. supplies, including food, clothing and beddings, were totally destroyed. Returning to town, the same mob, though somewhat smaller in size, marched upon the county jail, where a formal demand was made to the sheriff to turn over the fifty or more I. W. W. men who are now imprisoned there. The crowd made no attempt to force a way into the jail, and was finally persuaded to disperse.

The I. W. W. speakers were violating no law. Fresno has no ordinance forbidding street speaking, and the mobbing occurred after the chief of police had issued an order to his force to allow them to speak unmolested, having discovered the absence of any ordinance of the kind.

The mob had gathered before the speaking began. The first speaker had scarcely opened his mouth before he was knocked down and severely beaten, with a number of other I. W. W. men. The mob was led by two former prize fighters, one of them a Fresno fireman, and automobiles were freely used to carry men out of town to join in the destruction of the I. W. W. tent and all it contained.

The shameful behavior of the police, in making no effort to interfere with the mob, may be judged from the fact that a citizen telephoned to the Republican office on Friday afternoon that "the police were going to let the firemen and citizens handle the I. W. W." in the evening, and it was common talk that I. W. W. speakers were to be tarred and feathered.

Whatever may be said of the I. W. W., their right to freedom of speech and orderly public assemblage is the same as that of any other class of persons. And they are accused of no other "offense" in Fresno than that of abusing liberty of speech by "attacks upon the city government" and "threatening remarks" against the police, although two of the Industrial Workers testified in the police court that they "rode into town on top of a train," and that all the Industrial workers likewise "beat their way."

Even if the I. W. W. were all vagrants, that would be no excuse for the crimes of assault and battery, rioting and arson committed by the Fresno mob, which the Republican says was composed chiefly of laboring men. It is not charged that the Industrial Workers had committed any unlawful or criminal acts in Fresno, while every member of the mob is guilty of felonies punishable by a term in the state's prison.

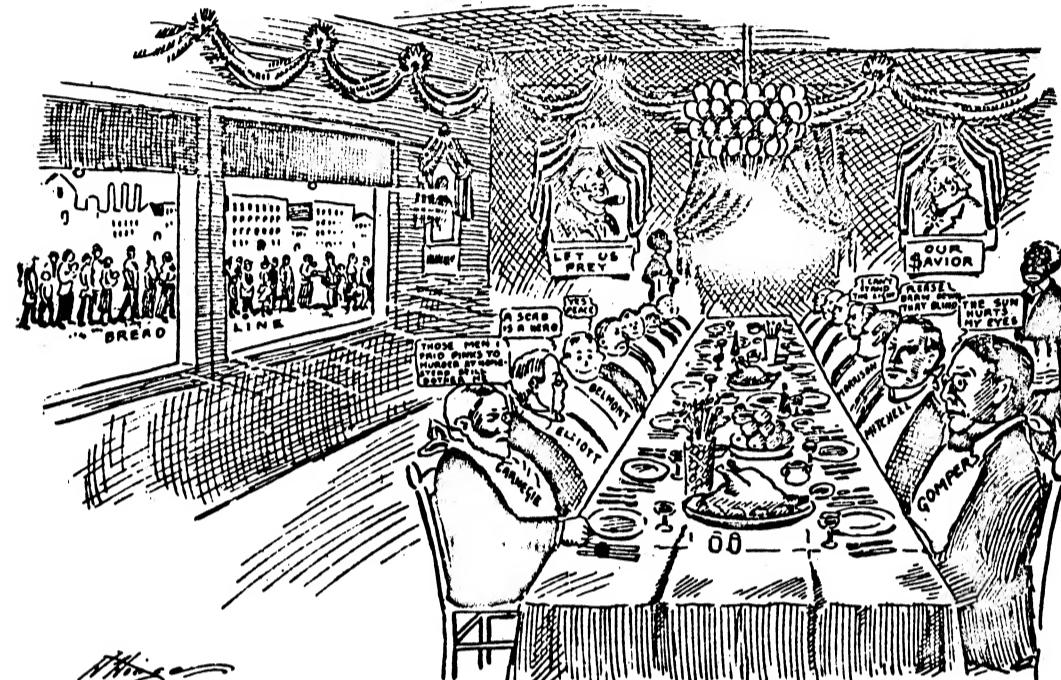
There were no arrests of rioters, although the leaders of the mob were well known, their names being published in the local papers. This fact exposes the criminal collusion of the police in the crimes of the mob.

There is complaint of incendiary talk on the part of the speakers of the I. W. W. and other agitators, but nothing could do more to spread and promote sentiments of anarchy in this country than this Fresno outrage, with all its attendant circumstances.

The Bee has nothing but condemnation for vagrancy and incendiary speechmaking that incites to violation of law or of the rights of property. But when the "good citizens" and the authorities of any city countenance such outrages as those committed by the Fresno mob, the I. W. W. may be said to shine by comparison.—Sacramento Bee, Dec. 12.

Mr. Workingman! Are you getting the good things of life? The boss is organized. That's why HE is able to enjoy what YOU produce. GET WISE!

Labor Fakirs and Capitalists Are Identical. See?



The Civic Federation is the Home of Sacred Contract.

ON TO VICTORY

AROUSE YE WAGE SLAVES—ON TO FRESNO.

Your fellow workers are being slugged and beaten by mobs of business men, thugs and pimps, while you by your silence give consent. The Citizens' Alliance, with the consent of its lackeys, the police department, have laid a nice plot for the suppression of the Workers. The cry went up. You cannot stop them in a legal way. So the citizens must act. Now the citizens of Fresno are being blamed for the actions of a few hundred business men and political prostitutes, nobly aided by the police department. The history of the trouble is as follows: On December 9th Judge Briggs dismissed the case against F. H. Little, who was charged with disturbing the peace. The parasites were shocked. On December 11th a jury of business men found F. W. Murdock guilty of vagrancy and he was sentenced to six months in jail. The prosecuting attorney, in his speech to the jury, held that going around the country as a paid organizer of a labor union was an unlawful business. The jury agreed with him on that point. Murdock was ably defended by John Balam, a well known rebel in this state. On the same night a mob of pimps and thugs in the employ of the Citizens' Alliance, ably led by a city detective named Barnum, burned down our headquarters and unmercifully beat up some of our members, who were forced to leave town for the time being. We lost everything except the books and our fighting spirit, which they cannot destroy, as we will prove to them before this fight is over. The plot laid so cleverly by the police department was doomed to failure, as the riot created a sentiment in favor of the Workers which could not be created in months of peaceful fighting. The fair-minded citizens now realize that our fight is a just one. They also realize that we are a fighting workingmen's organization and not a bunch of hoodlums that the slimy press pictures us to be. We have shouted from the rooftops that the Industrial Workers shall not be discriminated against, even if we have to stay in jail all our lives. When we go to jail others will take our place and carry on the good work.

Show those intolerable tyrants what an aroused and enraged working class will go through to protect the few rights that are left to them. Our forefathers were fighters. Don't have it said that we were a race of cowards, but stand up like men and march on to Fresno to uphold the rights of free speech and peaceable assemblage, singing that song of freedom, "To arms, to arms, ye brave, the avenging sword unshied; March on, march on, all hearts resolved to victory or death."

JOHN WHYTE,
Secretary.

CIVILIZATION

EVERY INCH OF PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE OVER THE DEAD BODIES OF THOSE THAT ADVISED IT.

According to our Helena morning newspaper (*The Independent*), the Industrial Workers have achieved a most remarkable victory in establishing free speech in Fresno, Cal. The same information states that the usual reformation penalty was inflicted, namely, torture by a mob. To one who has studied closely the lives of great reformers, infidels, scientists, heretics, etc., torture is but a martyr's crown. Torture is the last effort of the defeated politician, the final desire of a beaten clergy. Is it a disgrace to be mobbed?

Jesus Christ was mobbed. Jesus Christ, the man, the greatest reformer of his generation, Giordano Bruno was martyred for discovering a fact, i. e., the diurnal movement of this planet, which was then not in accord with the scriptures which the Christian church upheld.

Galileo was banished chiefly for discovering the satellites of Jupiter.

Voltaire died (1778) despised by the church for pointing out great contradictions in the scriptures.

Russian reformers have been exiled to the Siberian mines for having urged liberty and freedom.

Thomas Paine, the patriot, passed away in a small house on Columbia Street, New York, cursed by religion, because of his religious belief.

Spinoza, Hume, Humboldt, Darwin, Huxley, Spencer, Gibbon, Ingersoll all died shunned by religion because they put forth ideas which did not correspond with the ignorance of the time.

John Brown was mobbed in America and Washington was hated in England, but that does not prove their actions were infamous. No credit is reflected upon a people who chastise a person because they cannot answer their arguments. The very fact that the Industrial Workers were mobbed by Fresno people (and I suppose it was the merchant class, assisted by members or officials of the A. F. of L.) proves to us that they could not intelligently answer their arguments.

It does not require as much intelligence to kill a person as it does to convert him. A mob is a symbol of the dark ages, the last remains of savagery, a sure sign of defeat.

The Industrial Workers command our respect; intelligence and bravery always do. The Workers do as they always did.

The mobs perform when they are bid, and when the smoke has cleared away, the Workers are ready for another fray.

MARK M. ALBERT.

LAW! LAW!

HOW CAPITALISTS UPHOLD THE LAW.

LAW is a good thing for the boss when it works to his benefit. When it don't, he handles the law by DIRECT ACTION. Note the action of the capitalist mob in Fresno when it was discovered that there was no LAW to prohibit FREEDOM OF SPEECH. The LAW is the biggest fake of the times. There are so many glaring examples of the duplicity of this fake called LAW that it would take ten papers the size of the WORKER to tell about it.

A. F. OF L. SCABBERY IN SAN FRANCISCO.

San Francisco, Cal., Dec. 10.—The San Francisco "Newspaper Solicitors' Union" was organized some months ago in Frisco. They had a strike and boycott on an evening paper here a short time ago and the Federated Trades backed them up in it, but the Typographical and other newspaper unions brought it up in the A. F. of L. convention at St. Louis and the convention put the solicitors' union out of business and declared that they had "no right to strike or boycott, inasmuch as the Typographical Union, Pressmen's Union, Stereotypers Union, Photo Engravers' Union and Mailing Clerks' Union, all affiliated with the A. F. of L., HAD A CONTRACT WITH THE AMERICAN NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS' ASSOCIATION WHICH FORBID STRIKES OR BOYCOTTING."

This is another example of craft autonomy and scabbery. WHILE THE SOLICITORS WERE ON STRIKE AGAINST THIS NEWSPAPER, the other newspaper workers' unions, numbering five in all, REMAINED AT WORK, thus seabing on the solicitors. The solicitors and all the other unions are regularly represented in the Federated Trades Council.

I ask any A. F. of L. man reading this, DO YOU CALL THIS UNIONISM? It is up to you, if you have any sense at all, to "CUT IT OUT" and get in an organization that stands for real "Solidarity of Labor," the I. W. W.

"M. G."

If you have any money to spare send it to W. F. Little, Box 209, Fresno, Cal. The boys need some coin to replenish the stock of provisions and tent destroyed by the RESPECTABLE MOB.

The city of Fresno is a disgrace to the state of California. Even the daily papers of other California towns admit the truth of this statement.

SHINGLE WEAVER CRITICISES

ANSWERS TO DEFENDERS OF CRAFT UNIONS.

EXTRACTS FROM ARTICLE IN DECEMBER SHINGLE WEAVER.

It is intimated that if the I. W. W. principles are accepted by a referendum vote of our members a consideration number will demand and maintain the old organization, in which case, the evil of a dual competition will be prominently to the fore. Here we meet the same old contempt of majority rule; the same domineering trait of leadership with which we are familiar; the same effort to prevent any honest decision of the question, and the same rule or ruin policy. We have not as yet issued any Manifesto, nor have we called for any irregular conventions. If we learn by a vote that we are in the minority, we will still maintain our position in the ranks. The Shingle Weavers' Union has none of the power that distinguished it years ago. We have settled to a policy of compromise and a career of begging favors. When, may I ask, have we won a clear-cut victory? You leaders—speak up! What are your plans as to Ballard, Whatcom and Skagit counties, and the southwest? It will not do to say that: "We propose to organize." We have been organizing for eight years. Three-fourths of the scabs have been members. Ninety cents out of every dollar we have paid in goes to the work of organizing, for not more than 10 cents out of each dollar has ever reached the man on strike.

I am anxious to be right on this question, and, as helping me to decide it, I willingly accept, I eagerly accept the strongest glass that may aid my vision. Mr. Brown says (and he ought to know) that by allying with the I. W. W. we will be compelled to sacrifice our representation in A. F. of L. trades councils. But since we have locals in no more than five cities in which there are trades councils; since possibly only in Everett and Hoquiam have we any such representative; since the railroad brotherhoods contrive to maintain their pride without being so represented, and since the principal office of a trade council is to secure the sop of political jobs in recognition of labor, I must allege my calm unconcern toward the loss of that inestimable (as it is supposed) privilege. Along the same line, the mover of that argument might have advanced the fact that we would also lose our delegate to the A. F. of L. convention—what a hell of a misfortune that would be. I suspect that the threat that the A. F. of L. will destroy us, as they did the I. W. W. at Goldfield, will be productive of defiance rather than fear. Is it come to that pass that we are bound hand and foot to Gompers? Has he established such a despotism as Mr. Post alleges? Ah! what a spectacle was exhibited there on the theater at Goldfield, when a greedy capitalist, a fat-necked A. F. of L. organizer, and a Pinkerton thug joined arms and destroyed a young organization that had gotten for labor better conditions than had been injoyed in the West! How well must the capitalist have been convinced that if he recognized the A. F. of L. he would have to confer only with the "skilled" aristocrats of labor and that the mass of laborers would be left to his tender mercies. How well he knew that if the I. W. W. survived the gale, he would have to do equal and exact justice to ALL. I respect Mr. Post as a fair foe; I detest Gompers as a treacherous friend. I say that rather than be a party to any despotism, I would prefer to be a free and independent scab. It is singular to the last degree that reference should be made to the aid given the "flints," or anyone else, through the agency of the BOYCOTT as administered by the A. F. of L. In view of the facts that the boycott has been declared illegal by the Supreme Court, that damages have been assessed against several unions for employing it, AND THAT THE FEDERATIONIST DOES NOT DARE TO PUBLISH A BOYCOTT, I say it is an insult to the intelligence of our weavers to allege any such bunccombe as an element of the argument.

The harrowing intellectual poverty of our opponents is exhibited in their display of facts. Perhaps a detached line from a Preamble sentence and a fragment from an editorial can convince us that the A. F. of L. is not bound to the theorem that "the interests of labor and capital are identical." Perhaps when the aristocrats of labor and capital drink Sec. 1882, at the banquet boards

(Continued on Page Two.)

INDUSTRIAL WORKER

Published Weekly by the General Executive Board of the Industrial Workers of the World.
326 MAIN AVENUE
SPOKANE, WASHINGTON

FRED W. HESLEWOOD.....	Editor
JOSEPH O'NEIL.....	Asst. Editor
Subscription Yearly.....	\$1.00
Canada, Yearly.....	1.50
Subscription, Six Months.....	.50
Bundle Orders, Per Copy (In Canada).....	.02
Bundle Orders, Per Copy, (In United States).....	.02
CASH MUST ACCOMPANY ALL ORDERS.	

INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD.
General Headquarters—518 Cambridge Building, Chicago, Illinois.
Vincent St. John..... General Sec'y-Treas.
W. E. Trautmann..... General Organizer

GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD.
C. H. Axelson, Francis Miller, Charles Scurlock, J. J. Eitor, Geo. Speed.
Entered as second-class matter, May 21, 1910, at the Postoffice at Spokane, Wash., under the Act of March 3, 1879.

Labor with what zeal we will,
Something still remains undone;
Something incomplete still
Waits the rising of the sun.

—Longfellow.

WHAT'S THE NUMBER ON THE LABEL?

If No. 92 is on the yellow label beside your name on the paper, it means that your subscription expires with this issue. Don't fail to renew your subscription in time, as the paper will be stopped immediately it expires.

PULL TOGETHER.

To organize the workers according to their industries, and to teach class solidarity, is the mission of the I. W. W. Such work requires men and women who are firm in their convictions, and who will not falter or back up at the least trivial little incident that tends to discourage. Those who wilfully discourage others that are trying to build up the movement are a disgrace to the working class. All knockers against the working class movement should make application to the Pinkerton Detective Agency. A good knocker is worth his weight in gold—TO THE BOSS.

INCREASE THE SIZE OF THE "WORKER."

Much valuable news and articles from workers all over America are being crowded out each week from the "Industrial Worker." Let us go after the "DEFICIT" and then increase the size of the paper. If each member will do a little, this can be accomplished. The editor will promise to do his best to kick the deficit into oblivion, and appeals to all the live members to do their share. Fellow Worker Stoltz, in Hoquiam, proved what can be done in this line. Stoltz has secured 100 subscriptions in the past few weeks. It's true that every man has not the ability or tact to accomplish so much, but it is also true that every member can do a little in this direction. Try it now, this week, and see how it looks in print to see that deficit getting smaller. Let us make the "Worker" the greatest fighting weapon in America. We can do it.

THE HOME GUARD.

The hardest job on the coast is to organize the *Home Guard*. The "home guard" is known by the loggers to mean the man that is a combination of farmer and logger: one who has purchased a piece of ground from the boss at ten times more than the boss paid for it before the logs were taken off it. The "home guard" goes to work for the boss in the camp as a logger to try and earn enough after feeding his family to buy powder to blow out the stumps on the logged off ground. As it takes several dollars worth of powder to jar a stump on Puget Sound, it is a safe bet that the "home guard" will be blowing up stumps when Gabriel blows the horn. Trying to save money out of wages to pay the boss for something that cost the boss nothing, besides purchase the powder, is certainly a job that requires a lot of courage or a weak head. When men have to work every chance they get in a logging camp to earn money to buy powder with and then call themselves farmers when asked to join the loggers' union it makes the organizer scratch his head and wonder. The words *HOME GUARD* is a fitting name for the gent, but *SCISSORBILL* would be better. There may be some among them that realize they are not farmers, but loggers pure and simple; and at that a little worse off than the logger that is not encumbered with stumps, but we have never met them yet. Here's that they either stick to the stumps or the logging camp and organize with the others to shorten the hours of labor and make things look brighter on earth. **YOU WILL BE A LONG TIME DEAD.** Do it today. If you think the boss will give you anything he don't have to you are troubled with illusions.

HELP YOURSELF.

We are in this deplorable condition because we have always been trusting to some one else to lead us out of the land of bondage. Those who are going to wait until some one else does something for them are not deserving of any better conditions than those which prevail at present. We have got to learn to have some initiative ourselves if we expect to accomplish anything. No one can do anything for the workers, except to show them the way to do it themselves. The WAY is to ORGANIZE properly and stand together for the FULL PRODUCT of our toil. As we grow in strength we will wrest from the master class according to the strength we use. More power, more of the good things of life. Shy clear of those who are going to do something for you. Trust in yourself and your fellowman on the job to fight with you. Fight where you are robbed. That's on the job. Nothing can be accomplished except by ORGANIZATION. After you join the I. W. W., then take an interest in it and see that the affairs of the union are properly looked after.

LEST WE FORGET.

HELP THE WORTHY POOR is being whispered, talked and yelled from every street corner in the business section of Spokane. We have been trying to find out who the worthy poor are, and after some effort we have located them. They are those who trust to God for everything, and are not unthankful that they are what they are. They are ready to starve to death on earth rather than admit that there is a cruel class war being waged in society. They believe that everything can be settled by bowing the head in prayer. The sickening smile that steals over the faces of these mental prostitutes when the boss puts a quarter in their pot is a sight to behold. A rat will fight when cornered, but these mental imbeciles are far from having the fighting spirit of a rat. The cry a year ago in Spokane from this tribe of satisfied yaps was HELP THE WORTHY PRISONERS who were in the jails. The worthy prisoners were the pimps, prostitutes, murderers, holdup men, yeggmen, barrel stiffs, drunks, petty larceny thieves, etc. Those who were not worthy were the men and women who defied the edict of a subservient band of capitalist sluggers to keep them from telling the truth on the streets of Spokane.

Well might the master class be contented to throw a few nickels into an iron pot once a year to feed the poor fools that are satisfied to let him rob them of four-fifths of the product of their toil the rest of the year. Well may the boss hate those who wish to show up his graft and advise the WORKERS OF THE WORLD TO UNITE. It's not hard to understand, ORGANIZE RIGHT AND MAKE THE MASTER SHELL OUT EVERY DAY. THEN THE WORKS. WHY NOT?

MUCH MURDER.

From different parts of the country comes the reports of accidents in the coal mines and a long list of dead thrown in for measure. Did we say ACCIDENTS? No, they were not accidents, but wilful murder. Coal miners who gave evidence in Trinidad, where 79 miners were murdered lately, state that dust was piled up in the mine for months and was not being watered. Coal miners are away cheaper than water to the boss. The MINERS' UNION buries the dead that are murdered by the boss, and also prevents the men from asserting their ECONOMIC POWER. They dare not strike according to the terms of the SACRED AGREEMENT. Those who have dared to oppose this SACRED CONTRACT in the past were fined \$20.00 each, and the boss got half of the fine for collecting it from the pay envelopes of the men. That's unionism according to the wish of JOHN MITCHELL, who draws \$6,000.00 a year from the master class to use his best efforts to see that the CONTRACTS ARE LIVED UP TO.

Until the coal miners organize to protect their own lives by being free to stop production in a minute's notice when DANGER IS SCENTED, until then this weekly death list will be written in the daily papers. The misery and suffering which the wives and children of the dead miners have to endure through this wanton murder is untold. Down with the CONTRACT.

WHAT IS A HOBO?

The capitalist press says it is a fellow who is out of work, and that he is harmless except that he burns up the ties along the railroad track to keep warm. So he is a man OUT OF WORK, caused by industries being shut down. Glorious! We thought he was some fellow who would not work, but was a kind of PROFESSIONAL BUM and petty thief that preyed on others. A HOBO and A TRAMP are nice names to have the boss calling you after he has worked hell out of you and taken the greater share of the product of your toil. If you don't like it, you know what you can do. ORGANIZE TO SHORTEN THE HOURS OF LABOR. Stop letting the boss call you nasty names. GET WISE TO YOURSELF. If you don't like a shorter work day and more wages, then be a HOBO or a TRAMP. It's up to you. One union for all is the only cure. COME IN.

A CAPITALIST STOOL-PIEON.

"The liberty of America, civil, intellectual and religious, the spread of evangelical religion, the standing of the nation amongst the peoples of the world, our prosperity, and our opportunities as a nation and as individuals are things failure to recognize which denotes ingratitude."

This choice gem, with a lot more on the same order, went whistling through the teeth of a sky pilot named Gallagher on Thanksgiving day in Spokane.

This gent will pander to the ignorance of the people just as long as they will come through with the shackles on the plate on Sunday, and as Thanksgiving day is generally the best one for the preacher, as he gets the whole collection, it is easy to understand what kind of a gang he had in the church.

The liberty of America, civil, intellectual and religious. Wouldn't that jar you? Intellectual liberty was celebrated last Thanksgiving day in Spokane on a dry crust of bread and some water while, pimps and murderers were fed on turkey and cranberry sauce. Any man has liberty in America who will prostitute himself like this Pharisee by boasting for a system that makes millionaires on the one end and thousands of beggars at the other. Just where the opportunity is for the slave to get a coal mine, a forest, an oil well, a copper or gold mine, a salt well, or any other of the natural resources of the country, we fail to see. Everything we eat and wear is today in the hands of a few parasites who control it, NOT FOR THE WELFARE OF THE PEOPLE, but for the one ghoulish desire, and this is money—PROFIT. If we rebel against this unjust system we are thrown into lousy cells, beaten with clubs, and starved on a sour crust of bread. How well these capitalist suckers know what to say on Thanksgiving day. A preacher draws his convictions from the same source that he draws his salary. If he dares to draw them from any other source he will get a can tied to him quick. These sickening platitudes about liberty and opportunity in a city where only a year ago men were actually murdered for daring to assert this INTELLECTUAL LIBERTY, is enough to make a mule sick. The battle for real liberty has yet to be fought in this country. It will be between an intelligent working class that is today an abject slave to a cruel system, and the parasite class that controls the churches and all other agencies where ignorance is more welcome than intelligence. A pimp or a murderer is a better man in the sight of the boss and his lick-spittal stool-pigeons than an I. W. W. man, who desires to have the fruits of his labor instead of giving it to an idle crew of legal libertines who revel in luxury and licentiousness at the expense of a working class. ORGANIZE RIGHT. ORGANIZE YOUR MIGHT. The sooner you do it, the sooner you will get your freedom. DO YOU WANT IT?

A. F. of L. Shingle Weaver

(Continued from Page 1)

of the civic federation, it is to the toast that Labor is entitled to all it produces. An extract given us for our delectation in which Mr. Gompers has it that the interest of labor and capital is identical in PRODUCTION. For the love of Mike, does anybody believe that. It is to your interest to work steadily, is it not? It is often the interest of the trust to make an artificial scarcity by shutting down. The child labor laws, the sixteen-hour law, the employers' liability law is in your interest; and it follows, as the night of the day, that the capitalists oppose them. DO YOU THINK THE CAPITALIST WOULD OPPOSE THEM IF THEY WERE IN HIS OWN INTEREST? No, thank heaven, that degree of imbecility is confined to the peerless leaders of our destiny. It is to the interest of every weaver to have blowers installed in mills, unions recognized, boilers inspected. If such things are in the interest of the mill owners, I will say that they are liable for criminal neglect. It is to the interest of the boss that you should work hard; it is to your interest to conserve some portion of your strength. Think of the coal mine accidents in which so many lives are wantonly destroyed; think of the Gompersian platitude, then think of the gentlemen of the southwest who in so many ways resemble Roosevelt, and finally, think to a finish and reach a conclusion.

The dues of the I. W. W. are fifty cents a month. The head secretary of the I. W. W. reports that that amount is ample to maintain the organization. Since those who pretend to criticize that feature of the Workers have never shown any marked degree of ability as ministers of finance, it would be well enough for them to leave the tender part of the anatomy of any union to the nursing of its friends.

The arithmetic of the dues question puzzles me, and bear in mind I have always paid my dues, though I have not been employed in shingle weaving two years in seven. Here in Milltown, six of us pay one dollar a month. I should much prefer that twelve of us should pay fifty cents a month. This is not for pecuniary reasons. It is because the men here who make the most wages, with two honorable exceptions, don't pay any dues at all. These very well paid men are quite willing in case our dues paying membership dwindles to three persons, that we should yield the same revenue by paying two dollars a month. I must here interpolate my opinion of a man who earns five to six dollars a day, believes in unionism, defends it, boasts of his adherence to it on occasions, sees a little kind of a packer come through with his dollar regularly, and still HIMSELF puts off an organizer with a hard luck story. I think that such a man is a moral eunuch, a neutral person of the third sex, a creature whose pretense to manhood is an insult to nature.

I despise in every fibre of my being that odious term: Skilled labor. We would do much better to speak of ourselves as trained laborers. If any flattering terminology is needed to distinguish us at all. The skill of the average workman is contemptuous; so much so that by limiting the number of apprentices, by imposing fines for allowing others to use our tools, and by guarding our pitifully meagre technical knowledge with jealous care, we hope to prevent the casual, much despised unskilled laborer from picking up our few accomplishments and being as wise as ourselves. Before venting our tumultuous distaste on what we are pleased to call "unskilled labor," LET US TAKE

SOME ACCOUNT OF THE TIME WHEN WE MUST JOIN THAT INNUMERABLE THROUGHSSELVES. Any moment may bring out a perfect patent roofing to claim the entire market; when the fires die in the mills; when the great cold smokestacks loom above the deserted scenes of our present activity, or when, if all else fails, the timber is exhausted. WHAT THEN WILL BECOME OF OUR VAUNTED SKILL? If it were not so highly discreditable in the eyes of shingle weavers to give any exhibition of learning, I might allude to the condition of the hand weavers of England in those unhappy years in which the power loom was introduced on the moors of Lancashire. It serves my purpose to remind my readers that the knot-sawyer who now tramps the roads begging the humble favor of employment once relied on his skill, and once exempted himself from gnawing concerns of the lowly horde. When linotype machines were introduced in 1892, the havoc wrought among the old type setters sent them scurrying along unfrequent ways, maintaining themselves for a few days on the pennies they had gotten from a division of the union funds, finally to envy the dog his bone and the horse his bed. Let no one believe that skilled workers easily win their strike. Commercial telegraphers are skilled; aren't they? With swift and sure touch, their trained fingers operate the keys of telegraph and typewriter instruments. They must be educated and they must be experts. In that great year of prosperity, 1907, they struck—they struck, and where are they? Skill; nothing so common. I have skill with a pen, and skill in figures. The typewriter and the adding machine supply negation of that skill. Average skill would not lift me from penury; only phenomenal and pre-eminent skill counts at all. The skill of which I speak the insect has. Whatever may be our skill, we must view the helpless emulation, the perfect hexagons and pyramids of a bee hive.

I confess that I would carry the I. S. W. U. to the I. W. W. as a matter of sentiment. It was sentiment that struck the chains from the negroes of the South and put a lot of aristocrats on the bum. There is an irrepressible conflict. It is not the shingle weaver against capital, not the fisherman against capital—it IS LABOR AGAINST CAPITAL, and to the extent that we weld and amalgamate may we enlarge our hopes of victory. And now I beg to offer the logical defense of the A. F. of L. It is this: The benefits that have been secured in the past have been at the expense of common labor and not of capital. So long as we secure benefits, we care not at whose expense they come, but by admitting a wholesale incursion into our ranks from the horde of the lowly, our opportunity to be sure of prospering through their misery visited upon them by masters who have been compelled to yield to us, would be removed.

GEORGE ALLEN.

SPECIAL NEWS FROM FRANCE

OLD AGE PENSIONS A FAKE—BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.

One of the leading topics now being discussed in French political and journalistic circles is whether or not it will be advisable to enforce the recently enacted old age pension law, which goes into effect in July, 1911.

This law is the beautiful socialist scheme fathered by Viviani, socialist minister of labor, in the Waldeck Rousseau and Briand cabinets, that obliges all workers to pay assessments of six to nine francs a year, according to sex and age—for thirty years, which in turn entitles them to a pension of sixteen cents per day after they have reached the age of 65 years.

Whilst the law was pending passage the C. G. T. administration (confederal committee) waged a vigorous campaign against it. Among other measures taken was the planning of a great demonstration for May 1, 1910.

This was suppressed and forbidden by the government, which was confident that in the approaching C. G. T. Congress at Toulouse the C. G. T. administrator's stand in the matter would be condemned as a result of the efforts of Niel and the rest of the reformist element, and that the pension law would be endorsed in lieu of a better one. However, this hope was disappointed. The government plan was tried at Toulouse, but the reformist element backing it were routed, the position taken by the C. G. T. administration was indorsed and a resolution adopted condemning the pension law in unmeasured terms and urging the workers to resist its application by every means in its power.

The C. G. T. officially declared war on the fancy socialist legislation.

The "powers that be," wise from past experiences with the lawless C. G. T., became alarmed, and although the threatened campaign against the law was not yet started by the C. G. T., the pension law, so lately considered an ideal one by its advocates, fell into disrepute amongst its creators immediately after the close of the congress at Toulouse. It was attacked from all sides. A thousand reasons (except the right one) were urged in objection to its being enforced. So vigorous has this warfare on the law become that at present it appears very likely that the law will remain a DEAD LETTER.

The following quotation from "La Lanterne," a crooked socialist sheet, will give an idea of how widespread the agitation is against the law, and the thinness of at least one of the pretended reasons for not enforcing it.

"For the moment there is but one question: Shall we apply the old age pension law? There has been 10 years' work put into it. It has not been improvised, as everyone knows. In the senate and chamber of deputies the matter was examined in all its aspects and it was only with difficulty that these bodies arrived at this decision. Are we now going to destroy all this work under the pretext that it is imperfect? That would be madness."

It will be intensely interesting to watch the fate of the OLD AGE PENSION LAW.

W. Z. FOSTER.

DEFINE WORTHY POOR

Help the WORTHY POOR. Keep the pot boiling. These appeals and an iron pot, together with a brainless fool in uniform like an Italian's monkey are holding down every street corner in the large cities bumming money for the poor. Their way of getting rid of the poor is by PRAYING, and giving them something to eat on Christmas. God loves the poor. All reserved seats in heaven are for the poor. God help the poor. THE WORTHY POOR. He has lots of friends these days.

If we done more fighting than praying we would not now have to take to the railroad tank with our turkeys.

OFFICIAL NOTICE.

Beware of frauds and fakirs claiming to represent the Industrial Workers of the World. There is but one organization that has any claim to the name of INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD. The general office of that organization is located in Chicago, Ill. All organizations and individuals claiming to represent the Industrial Workers of the World that do not have proper credentials from the above organization or some of its local unions are frauds and imposters. Pay no money to them.

All organizations using the name of the Industrial Workers of the World that are not affiliated with the general headquarters at Chicago, Ill., are liars.

Industrial Workers of the World.

VINCENT ST. JOHN,

NEWS FROM THE MAN ON THE JOB



ON THE ROAD.

I have been taking close observations lately of the working class and I find discontent running high. Seventy-five per cent of the men I have talked with lately are for the I. W. W., but they are all broke now. I believe they are waking up to the fact that the boss has no use for them, but only the money they make for him. The sooner they all find this out the sooner will the I. W. W. get control of production. I find all kinds of wage slaves agitating for the I. W. W., and that is what we need. MORE AGITATORS. There are a great many rebels among the trainmen on the Southern Pacific and they are talking I. W. W. all the time.

M. C. WARDEN,
Camp Delegate, No. 40, I. W. W.

FROM HAYWARD, WIS.

Am working at Edward Hines Lumber Co. Wages \$30.00 and \$35.00 a month and board. Slave driver for a boss. Bunk houses fair. Twenty cents a week is charged for hospital, but there is no hospital.

HENRIK FAVOIN.

P. S.—A sick man was told to go to hell when he asked for medical attendance. Only those who break a leg or two can have attendance.

FROM BEMIDIGI, MINN.

Working at Cruxton Lumber Co. Work like hell. Slave drivers hire men through sharks. Men can only work from three to four days when he is fired to get more men from shark. Wages are \$30.00 per month for swamper and \$35.00 for teamsters and sawyers. Work from daylight till dark. Bunk houses in bad shape and impossible to get warm. Men get sick every day, 50 cents for hospital fee and 25 cents for mail box. Board fair. Good place to stay away from.

MEMBER No. 68.

MORNING, NIGHT OR NOON, OR THE MAN ON THE JOB.

As per instructions, one of our Polish members, upon arriving in camp, sent for literature. For obvious reasons it was sent in care of another fellow worker. Clerk in camp delivered it to our member without question. No sooner was our "One Big Union" dope gobbled up, read and digested till the talking about this I. W. W. union began. Then the "push" stepped upon the scene. "What's all this noise about?" he inquired. "I. W. W.—One Big Union. Shall we still be slaves and work for wages?" came the reply from all corners of the bunk house. Furious with anger he tried to cop all the literature. The men not only refused to give it up, but kicked him bodily out of the bunk house. Then the clerk came upon the scene looking for the Man on the Job, who distributed this sedition literature. But not until the bull cook played the informer did it come to light that it was one of our members who was the Man on the Job. The clerk made a rush at our member, but the other men huddled in and hatted Mr. Clerk till he squealed like a stuck pig and sent him after the "push." Next morning "push" came into the bunk house. "Roll out, you blanket blanks." A few refused. I. W. W. men went after the men who went to work and induced 39 of them to quit work. During the day and by next morning about 40 more had quit out of a total of 125. Walking boss, after seeing so many men down town, asked them "what for?" He was told the story. The main push went back to camp and fired the foreman, the clerk and bull cook on the spot.

MEMBER No. 68.

Red Cliff Lumber Co., Minnesota.

FROM SALT LAKE.

I have just arrived here after working one month for the Union Fuel & Coal Co. at Hiawatha, Utah. This coal camp has got any job skinned for unbearable conditions outside of Old Mexico. The camp is 22 miles from a railroad, and they have things all their own way. Greeks and Japs preferred; others can work if they don't kick or agitate. Complaints will not be tolerated at all; you cannot start work unless you buy your tools, powder, etc., from the company store in hard cash; credit will not be given, and after a month's work you are about \$50 in the hole. You can never get clear out of debt to company store.

FROM HELENA, MONT.

No work at Helena. Men are being laid off in N. P. roundhouse. Not much work in surrounding country. No work at Logan or Garrison. Cold weather, high board and general poor accommodations. Have 12 subs coming up for pay day, all railroaders.

MEMBER LOCAL 40.

FROM VERDE, COLO.

I am at present laying off after getting in the long stretch of four days for the Ely Construction company, on the new double tracking of the C. S. and D. & R. G. joint track.

There are camps strung from Pueblo to Walsenburg, Colo.

Men are promenading up and down the line like lost sheep with but few jobs in sight. Most of the camps are bum. The best camps are Ely Construction Co., J. H. Nations, Allen & Lafferty and Hancock-McMahon. I. W. W. men can get work, but have to keep mum to hold her down.

WM. H. HARSH,
Camp Delegate No. 2, Local No. 26, Denver, Colo.

FROM SALT LAKE CITY.

At Provo, 40 miles away from her, is a water works construction camp owned by the James Kennedy Construction Co.

It is certainly the limit for testing your capacity to work. Hard work, lots of overtime, no pay for same, poor food and unhealthy bunk house.

Pay is \$2.00 per day, and 57¢ per day for board. Have to walk three miles to work on your own time. Slave drivers for bosses. Only Mormon patriotic scissorpills will stand the treatment. Average transient slave don't stick long. They pay \$2.25 a day if you work harder than the rest. Bunk house is 36 by 11 feet; 44 slaves housed in the bunk house. Any one saying a word against conditions is discharged.

JOHN NELSON,
Local No. 69, Salt Lake.

THEY REFUSED TO MURDER

DISARM MILITIA IN SOUTH WALES TERRITORIALS REFUSE ORDERS TO ACT AS COAL BOSSSES' TOOLS.

London, Dec. 15.—Disarmament by the military authorities of all the territories—as the English militia is called—in the strike-bound Aberdare Valley coal mining region of South Wales has given England the unpleasantest shock it has had in years.

Balk at Strike-Breaking.

It has always been considered in the past that if there was anything upon which the government could rely absolutely it was upon the loyalty of the constituted authorities—civil and military—of the kingdom.

The plain suggestion of the latest development in Aberdare Valley that the militia is not only not to be depended on for use against the strikers, but is even likely to use its arms in the strikers' defense, has opened the country's eyes to the possibility of what looks like the danger of actual civil war.

Situation Not Local.

If the Aberdare situation were purely local, too, the outlook would not be quite so alarming, but the truth is that the same conditions prevail in practically every great industrial center throughout England, Wales and Scotland.

It is known definitely that at the time the mining town of Tony-Pandy was in the hands of a mob of 30,000 strikers a few weeks ago the leaders declared that if they deemed the time ripe for an uprising all over the country they could hold the little city against all the regular troops the government could send against them.

Plan National Disarmament.

They did, indeed, yield to the comparatively small force dispatched, because they did not care to make a purely local fight, and the national organization of workingmen was not complete enough at the time to insure simultaneous resistance of the government at a sufficient number of places to be effective.

They gave their words to their followers, however, that resistance was only delayed, and must come on a national scale in the very near future.

All Arms Taken Away.

The disarmament of the militia seems sufficient proof that the ruling powers took the threat seriously. The disarmament was conducted by the regular troops on the ground, under orders from the war office. A clean sweep was made of all rifles, ammunition and side arms in the district.—Chicago Socialist.

The WORKER is still running behind in finances. What are you doing to build up a large circulation?

NOTICE.

The Polish I. W. W. paper, "Solidarnosc," will be moved from Buffalo, N. Y., to Chicago, Ill. The first issue published from Chicago will be out about Dec. 25, 1910. After the change in the location the address of the editor will be B. Schrager, 3343 W. 16th St., Chicago, Ill.

NOTICE.

P. R. Villa has been removed from the management of "La Union Industrial," the Spanish I. W. W. paper printed in Phoenix, Arizona. Any members or locals that are not receiving their papers will notify the new editor at 512 East Buchanan street, Phoenix, Ariz. Address all communications to "La Union Industrial."

F. VELARDE,
Secretary Br. 2 Spanish I. W. W.,
Phoenix, Ariz.

SUBSCRIBE FOR THE Industrial Worker

What the Locals are Doing

FROM SAN DIEGO.

The attempt of the authorities to connect the I. W. W. with the Mexican revolution is laughable, or at least would be laughable if it were not for the fact that Mexican members of the I. W. W. here are constantly being dogged by secret service men from Mexico and are being watched by the "patriotic" American police departments all along the border. Mexicans are being arrested, hundreds of them every day, on a faked charge, and if they happen to have a pocket knife or a razor on them they are booked for carrying concealed weapons, and already several have been turned over to the immigration authorities. The I. W. W. at San Diego has no connection with the Mexican revolution, even though the capitalist newspapers do try to "make" stories to that effect.

It is said that John Pancer, a live wire, shortly from the North, will come to San Diego.

A move should be made at once by Pacific Coast locals to agitate among the longshoremen and sailors all along the coast.

SECRETARY NO. 13, I. W. W.

NEW LOCALS.

Transportation Workers' Industrial Union No. 244, New Haven, Conn. Emidio Presutti, 50 Hill street. Nov. 2, 1910.

Coal Miner Industrial Union No. 236, Burt, Wash. D. Gaito, Box 14. Nov. 4, 1910.

Clothing Workers' Industrial Union No. 187, Waterbury, Conn. Elia Auletta, Box 60. Nov. 17, 1910.

Metal and Machinery Workers' Industrial No. 19, West Pullman, Ill. Nov. 22, 1910.

National Industrial Union No. 72, National Nevada. R. W. Thaler. Nov. 29, 1910.

Greek Branch, Textile Workers, No. 436, Lowell, Mass. Nov. 1, 1910.

WORK IN DULUTH.

The following extract from a write-up of the I. W. W. in Duluth, from the Tribune of Dec. 5, shows that the boys in Duluth are doing good work and making things hum.

"Open Shop or Closed Shop" was the topic of discussion at the meeting of the Duluth local of the Industrial Workers of the World at their hall at 907 West Michigan street last evening. The discussion was led by Otto Justh, while several other members of the local participated in the arguments on the question.

This was the second meeting the local has held for discussion and debate. It appears that interest in the work of the Industrial Workers is increasing, as the hall was filled last evening. It is planned, as soon as it is found possible and convenient, to occupy larger quarters and to broaden the work of the Duluth members.

While the debate last evening did not result in either side winning the discussion of the proposition, it was interesting and educational to the workers. It is their idea to have a "closed shop" and an open union; that is, to have employers secure only union workers, but keep the unions open to the men at work.

It is their plan to ultimately have all the workers of the world combined in one strong organization and, thereby, secure for the working man what constitutes his rights, according to their theory.

Another meeting will be held next Sunday evening at which "Free Speech" will be the subject for discussion, dealing with recent events at Fresno, Cal. The use of school buildings for civic meetings and other gatherings will also be talked over.

There is a demand for the Industrial Worker here. Could have sold 150 this week. The 50 received on Monday were gone by Tuesday noon.

We have a crackerjack of a newsboy, who goes by the name of Ole — for obvious reasons. He served his apprenticeship in the Union in Russia.

The lad is as game a youngster as our well seasoned veteran, Albert V. Roe.

Direct Action, or How a Shark Came to Griev.

Ole was selling the Industrial Worker. The shark running the "Peerless" skinning office—he no like this. Threw Ole' papers on the sidewalk. Bystander used Direct Action on Shark. Biff! Bang! Crowd delighted! Shark cries ouch! and retreats to his den a wiser man (?) Moral: Don't assault I. W. W. newsboys.

Although zero weather, we used this incident to hold an outdoor meeting the same afternoon. Result: More literature sold and hall being visited by more men.

Yours for a fight,

OTTO JUSTH.

FROM MISSOULA.

Local No. 40 in Missoula has taken in 10 new members this last week. The secretary reports that they are all men on the job. That looks good to me. Here's hoping they stay on the job and get all the others that are on the job, and then whip the boss for more money and less hours of labor. The lumber jacks around Missoula have been scabbed on enough to discourage anything, but they are made of material that is not to be played with.

FROM SAN DIEGO.

What Are the Los Angeles Locals Doing? San Diego Local No. 13 (mixed) took in 10 new members during the month of November. San Diego Public Service Workers' Union No. 378 (Mexican branch) is taking in new members right along. One of the Mexican

workers has gone to Texas with the intention of organizing there.

The I. W. W. at San Diego will hold free discussion meetings in the hall at 834 Fourth street every Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock. These meetings are for the purpose of developing the oratorical powers of the members and for the purpose of giving strangers an insight into our movement.

Local No. 13 at San Diego is collecting an organization and literature fund and is preparing to do some real active work.

"M. G."

NOTICE.

The secretary of No. 40, I. W. W., Missoula, Mont., wishes to communicate with F. W. Otto, Pete Loder and Pete Brown.

The secretary of No. 40 has important business to transact with the above named fellow workers. Don't fail to write him.

Address of Secretary is James B. Shea, Box 745, Missoula, Mont.

I. W. W. HEADQUARTERS AT MISSOULA, LA. MONT.

I. W. W. headquarters and free reading room of Local No. 40, I. W. W., at Missoula is located at 211 Stephens St.

Free lectures Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays at 8 p.m. All wage workers are cordially invited to attend.

JAS. B. SHEA,
Secretary No. 40.

ATTENTION!

I. W. W. Members of No. 68, Duluth. Hello! You Zenith City rambling rebels. Back to town for a holiday jaunt, eh?

Hike yourself to our new hall at 907 West Michigan St. The boys will be glad to show you THE REAL GOODS around town. Come now. Don't wait until you're broke. Save!

FROM DULUTH.

Enclosed find job news. Please send us 150 Industrial Workers of the next issue, sure. We are selling every blessed copy of the Worker, Solidarity and Polish paper. Nothing allowed to fly round this hall. On Sunday, in spite of zero weather, we held an outdoor meeting. Out of the crowd five Polish workers joined, and only one American.

In the evening we held a meeting, at which some money was collected for the Fresno boys. Same will be sent to them at once.

OTTO JUSTH,

No. 68.

NOTICE.

Will Ed. Barton, formerly a member of 437, No. 4, Imperial, Cal. please communicate with John B. Bond, Secretary 437 No. 1, Holtville, Cal.?

NOTICE.

Any information in regards to the whereabouts of Fellow Worker Nelson Beach will be appreciated.

ALBERT TISDALE.

Secretary Local No. 12, P. O. Box 332, Los Angeles, Cal.

Do you want to see the WORKER into the hands of every workingman in the country?

To Help Us Grow

For Three Dollars Four Sub Cards

If you are interested in spreading the propaganda of Industrial Unionism; if you wish to see The Industrial Worker grow; purchase four yearly subscription cards for three dollars. If you are not a subscriber, sell three of the cards at a dollar apiece, and you will have your own subscription free. If you are already a subscriber, sell the four cards, which will net you one dollar, or 25 per cent commission.

**We Must Have the Subs
Lend Us a Hand**

I. W. W. Song Books

10 Cents Each: \$5.00 per 100.
Address T. H. DIXON, Spokane, Wash.
326-30 Main Avenue

INDUSTRIAL UNION LEAFLETS.

"Two Kinds of Unionism," by Edward Hammon.

"Union Scabs and Others," by Oscar Ameringer.

"Getting Recognition," by A. M. Sturton. 4 page leaflet, 20c per 100; \$1.50 per 1,000.

"Eleven Blind Leaders," by B. H. Williams. 32 page pamphlet. Price, 5c.

Pamphlets in Foreign Languages—"Why Strikes Are Lost," by W. E. Trautmann, in Lithuanian. Price, 10 cents a copy; 25 per cent off on orders of 100 or more. In Italian—"Report of the I. W. W. to Paris International Congress."

STICKERS! PASTE 'EM!
50 cents per thousand.

REMEMBER JAMES KELLY COLE.

A book has been printed which contains some of the writings and poems of James Kelly Cole. It is an 85-page book. Single copy, 25c; discount to Locals.

Address VINCENT ST. JOHN,
518 Cambridge Bldg., 55 5th Ave., Chicago.

"Solidarity"

A weekly revolutionary working class paper, published by the Local Unions of New Castle, Pa.

Yearly..... SUBSCRIPTION \$1.00

Six Months 50

Canada and Foreign \$1.50

Bundle Orders, per copy01

Address all communiaons for publication to B. H. WILLIAMS, Editor; all remittances to the manager, C. H. McCARTHY.

Address P. O. Box 622, New Castle, Pa.

The Industrial Union

Published Weekly by the
Industrial Workers of Phoenix, Ariz.
An Exponent of Revolutionary Industrial
Unionism, Printed in Spanish.

Subscription, \$1.00 per Year; 50¢ 6 Months.
Address 312 E. Buchanan St., Phoenix, Ariz.

SOLIDARNOSC

Official Organ of the
POLISH MEMBERS OF THE I. W. W.

Published by
L. U. NO. 317, I. W. W. \$1.00 A YEAR.

Make Remittances Payable to
A. A. ZIELINSKI, Sec. Press Com.,
1159 Broadway, Buffalo, N. Y.

L'Emancipation

Official Organ of the Franco-Belgium Federation, I. W. W.

AUG. DETOLLENAERE.

9 Mason Street. Lawrence, Mass.

The Agitator

A Worker's Semi-Monthly

Advocate of the Modern School
INDUSTRIAL UNIONISM AND
INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM

Yearly, \$1 Quarterly, 25c. Sample Free

JAY FOX, Editor

Lakebay, Washington

"La Vie Ouvrière"

Bi-Monthly Syndicalist Review
Appearing the 5th and 20th of each month.

Subscription Rates:

France, 3 months, 2 fr.; 50c; 6 months, 5 fr.; 1 year, 10 fr.

Foreign, 1 year, \$2.50; 6 months, \$1.25; 3 months, 75c.

Address all correspondence to Pierre Monette, Editor, 42 Rue Dauphine, Paris.

CHARITY IS GROSS INSULT

A FEW CRUMBS FROM THE MASTER'S TABLE.

(By an Observer.)

Christmas—the old pagan holiday of solstice; the turning of the sun—stolen by the Christians to serve in their interest; Christmas, the time of official and unofficial "charity," will soon be upon us again.

Every capitalist dope sheet from the so-called "respectable" to the most downright yellow sheet of the Hearst type, will overflow with charity and good will to the poor and destitute in the name of the so-called lowly-born Jesus, that mythical personality in whose name more blood has been shed than for any other cause, and whose existence is proved by as much or less historical evidence than that of Robinson Crusoe, Sant a Claus or Pied Piper.

All charity to be given will be advertised sufficiently and all the dope sheets of the country will call on those who are a little slow to come and help give the poor one meal, or perhaps two if there is enough left.

The Salvation Army and other grafting, lying and thieving organizations which go under the name of charity and in the cloak of religion, will call on the people to send them money, eatables and other things for distribution among the "deserving" poor; and the dudes and dames of "society" will give "charity balls" to show the art of dressmaking and how little a parasitic female of the "better class" needs to wear to pass muster for those entertainments of the cream of "our" country's population.

Now, all organized charity is a fake and a fraud, whether that old woman (charity) goes around in the cloak of religion, nationality, race or so-called humanity.

One—and a very plain—proof of it is that all charity organizations are connected with employment offices to furnish cheap labor to those who gives a few dollars a year for charity.

Here are some of the writer's own observations with such charity organizations in Chicago:

The Christmas and other religious people and humanitarians say that there is more pleasure in giving than in receiving, and, as the writer—who, by the way, is only a common working stiff—is not a very pleasure-loving person. He is willing to let the others have all the pleasure of giving and he is satisfied with what little pleasure there might be in doing the receiving.

We will take up three of those charity organization which are typical of all the rest of them.

I. The United Hebrew Charities.—This is supposed to be the best of all charity organizations and generally supposed to help all the poor Jewish people for the sake of their religious beliefs and they all being members of the same race.

That is not true. The Jewish capitalist has as much love for the Jewish wage slave as the other capitalists have for the wage slaves who are of their so-called religious beliefs.

There is more red tape with this so-called "charity" organization than with any other fake of like character, with the possible exception of the so-called local charity organizations.

The purpose is to make you so disgusted with that bunch that you give up all hope of ever getting anything and leave them alone. They can tell the newspapers that there were "only" a few applications tended, which proves that we had a year of great prosperity, and the starving wage slaves could not or would not recognize how good they were off.

All it is good for is to furnish a few arrogant men with easy, good paying jobs and some well-known charitable persons with a poor excuse, such as: "I give to all charity organizations and you have to go to them for any assistance. Besides, I don't know you. Good-bye." Which is a piece of charity of a well-known, supposed to be progressive Jewish preacher (rabbi) of the city of Chicago; a man who looks decent at a long distance, but proven to be a false alarm when examined at close range.

More money is spent in paying the administrative and distributing expenses than for charity itself.

The employment office of that organization is like the rest of them. The wages for jobs to be had there are from \$7.50 to \$10.00 per week, and if there would be a job which would pay the magnificent sum of \$2.00 for 10 hours or hard work I think those poor Jews would fight one another for it.

But, with all those faults, it is the best of the bunch, as it has the most money to distribute and comparatively the smallest number of applications for assistance.

As they are only dealing with Jewish people they are not as big a scab-herding concern as the Salvation Army, which is such a downright fraud that it makes one wonder how anybody can be such a numskull as to call the Salvation Army a charitable institution.

II.

German Aid Society.—Another false alarm is the so-called German Aid (sic) Society.

This society has an employment office, where you have to go if you want any assistance whatsoever. They have a German speaking policeman at the office to arrest you if you don't behave nice as becomes a poor down and out wage slave.

The jobs are mostly farm work, and nobody who knows the least little bit about the small German farmer wants to work for him. Hard work, long hours, wages \$15 and \$20 per month and board, miserable treatment and possibly no money at all, as many of those farmers

are dead beats. "Nothing but farmers—those who don't want it can go away; office, clean out the office." That is the stereotyped talk repeated about a half dozen times a day. And the office is open only from 8 a. m. to 12 a. m. every day, except Sunday, because those who come in the afternoon don't want to work anyhow; as the old man says who tends the job-seeking bunch.

Next to the farmers' jobs are the saloon porter and lunchman jobs. Those famous—or per week and fodder—no room—for 12 and 13 hours of daily work, and Sunday six and seven hours as a "day off."

Grub insufficient, treatment sometimes as good as that of a day, but very often worse. A little incident connected with the G. A. S. occurred two years ago. A female telephoned to the office for a janitor, who understood firing a steam boiler. Wages \$4.00 a week and room, but nothing to eat. The old man in the office told her that no man could work for such low wages, as he would need all the money to eat on and would have nothing left for clothes, shoes and laundry. The female answered he should not eat so much. That was too strong even for the German Aid Society and the old man got quite wrought up about it. Charity!

Sometimes they want some tradesmen, as carpenters, painters, tailors, etc. The wages are about one-third the regular wages, and they exploit good mechanics who cannot as yet speak English sufficiently to work for any but German bosses or join the American Separation of Labor, where they are good Americans, who don't want the d— foreigner, which now before he can talk English to some extent.

There is less red tape in the German Society than in the so-called Jewish charity organization, but people who went up there only to seek employment got insulted at the office. III.

Salvation Army.—Of all the contemptible frauds in the name of charity and religion the Salvation Army is the limit.

It is itself one of the lowest, dirtiest exploiters of labor, the cheapest scab-herding concern and most barefaced hypocrite of which the human being could conceive.

Religion for them is the cloak to cover up theft, lying, embezzlement and life of the worst type and crookedness which would make a politician blush, if such a thing were possible.

To belong to the Salvation Army means to have reached the lowest station of degradation and to be below a yellow cur.

It is pestilence itself.

The writer of this went to the Starvation Army and by some miracle got something out of them without going to their meetings once or sleeping in their own lodging house, but got the money for a bed in some other lodging house.

One little incident which is typical came to his notice two years ago this winter.

A woman in this town gives a Christmas basket to the Salvation Army every year. For that great "charitable" act she gets people from there to work in her three-story flat as janitor and steam boiler tender. He has to clean stairs and halls and windows and tend to the 10-pound steam boiler in the basement.

He gets for this work as wages \$9 a month and a dirty hole in the basement to sleep in. He has to eat on the 30 cents a day he is getting, which is about 5 cents an hour, as he has about six hours of work every day, Sunday included.

But the woman is a "charitable" one and, if possible, she will beat you out of your wages, too, because she is a dead beat. One of her sons belongs to the Young People's Socialist league.

If you refuse to accept such jobs you can starve before the Salvation (?) Army gives you anything, because you are too lazy and a bum who does not want to work.

The men who stand as Santa Clause on the street corners of this town collecting money for the Starvation Army get \$1.00 a day. And the Starvation Army preys upon the poor; they live off the money given to them for distribution among the poor, and if it were not for those poor, miserable wretches what would become of the Salvation army?

The Salvation Army does not help the poor, but the poor uphold the Salvation Army. And such a fraud in called a "charity organization."

Charity is degrading for the receiver; he has to be a liar and a hypocrite to get anything; if he happens to be an Atheist he will get nothing unless he confesses to be a Christian; if the charity distributor—not the giver, because you do not know the giver, only the distributor—is an American patriot he—the applicant—has to make believe that he thinks this is the best country in the world, if not in the whole universe.

It makes sneaks, liars, hypocrites instead of men and women, out of the human beings who are forced to get in contact with this old prostitute called charity.

A poor workingman who works for small wages and who goes and pays for a meal or a bed for a fellow workingman who is penniless is more charitable than all charity organizations put together.

But to offer charity to the workingmen is adding insult to injury. The so-called charity organizations of the capitalists are like a highwayman who, after robbing his victim of everything he had, offers him 10 cents for a meal.

Charity is the gift of the master to the slave. How long will the workingmen stand for charity? How long until they will organize and get what they produce, hold the product of their toil and not ask the masters' fake "charity" organizations for a bone to be thrown to them if they are good slaves.

Organize in the Industrial Workers of the World and fight for better conditions in the shops, mills, mines and factories, use direct action and sabotage like our French fellow-workers, the Syndicalists do, and tell the masters to take their fake "charity" and go to—

—with it.

SHARKS FATTEN IN UNION FRISCO

HOW IT WORKS IN AN ORGANIZED CRAFT CITY.

That some of the big contractors of the city are apparently in league with employment offices to squeeze money out of laborers seeking work is charged in a number of complaints reaching The Daily News. The system employed, according to some of the men who have been made victims of this graft, is for the contractor to hire only men who pay a fee at certain employment offices.

They are given work for a few days and then discharged to let in another batch of men who have paid the office fee. If they want re-employment it is up to them to pay an employment agent another fee. That the contractor gets a part of this fee is highly probable. How to pay back a considerable portion of the money they earn and still exist and support their families is the problem which the men are facing.

How It Works.

Here is a letter from one victim of the system of squeeze:

"The contractors' employment scheme has a big start in this city. The plan is to have an office send men with cards, at \$1.50 each, and lay off enough men each day to make room for the new batch of applicants.

"I began work four weeks ago on Mission street, in eight days was laid off and later found two men, who paid for their jobs, were put on the same day. After a week I was taken back and saw a dozen men with cards put on while many old hands and strangers without cards were refused. Many of these employment office men are only permitted to work two days.

"Mr. Editor, there are other shameless features of this infamy, but I have given enough to expose the dastardly practice of playing football with human beings for a little graft profit, as it is now going on in union-protected San Francisco. Cannot something be done to put a stop to it on public jobs?"

Have to Buy Jobs.

Here's another letter from a member of the Laborers' Union:

"I saw in The Daily News that Mayor McCarthy dug the first shovel of dirt for the new city hall. Does he know that in order to get a job there with the shovel a man must have got to go to an employment agency before he can go to work?"

"I also desire to call his attention to the fact that in order to get a job on the auxiliary water system on Mission street a man has got to pay the employment agent \$2 for the job. This particular agency has three gangs working on this city contract—one gang working, one gang coming and one going. Is this not a burning disgrace for a union labor city?"

"Now that the free employment bureau which The Daily News so nobly advocated is defeated, what could The News suggest to put an end to this, the meanest of all petty grafting and give the poor man a chance to get a job without buying it?"—The Daily News, San Francisco, November 23.

Don't make excuses. Make good. Gee! that's a dandy. How does it fit you, Bill?

Whereas, a general eight-hour work day is in the interest of, and desired by all intelligent wage workers; and

Whereas, an eight-hour work day would reduce the army of the unemployed and the chances